

## Message Text

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70

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 /018 W

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R 251530Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4498

UNCLAS CARACAS 10251

EO 11652 NA

TAGS: EWWT VE

SUBJ: NAMUCAR

REF: STATE 194668

1. FOLLOWING INFORMATION WAS OBTAINED IN MEETING ON AUG 16 WITH ALFREDO DOMINGUEZ MOREAN WHO OVERSEES NAMUCAR'S OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR C A VENEZOLANA DE NAVEGACION (CAVN). CAVN ACTS AS GENERAL AGENT FOR BOOKING CARGOES FOR NAMUCAR IN VENEZUELA.

2. WHEN ASKED ABOUT NAMUCRA'S PROFITABILITY, DOMINGUEZ STATED THAT NAMUCAR IS PRESENTLY MAKING A SMALL PROFIT. DOMINGUEZ POINTED OUT TWO PROBLEMS WHICH JEOPARDIZE CONTINUED PROFITABILITY: (1) AS A LINER SERVICE, NAMUCAR'S TARIFFS MUST NECESSARILY BE HIGHER BECAUSE OF THE NECESSITY TO MAKE PERMANENTLY SCHEDULED STOPS REGARDLESS OF CARGO DEMAND. (2) AS NAMUCAR'S TARIFF SYSTEM IS PRESENTLY INCOMPLETE, NAMUCAR IS FOLLOWING AN AD HOC POLICY OF CHANGES AND ADDITIONS TO MEET SPECIFIC DEMANDS, AND THESE RATES MAY NOT ALWAYS REFLECT TRUE COST.

3. DOMINGUEZ SAID THAT NAMUCAR DOES NOT RECEIVE PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT IN VENEZUELA. HOWEVER, NAMUCAR IS STUDYING IMPLEMENTATION OF CERTAIN PREFERENCES. IN THE LAST SESSION, A PROPOSAL WAS MADE TO ALLOW NAMUCAR VESSELS AND OPERATIONS THE SAME STATUS AS MEMBER-COUNTRY FLAG VESSELS AND OPERATIONS. WHILE THIS PROPOSAL IS ONLY IN THE PLANNING STAGE AT THE MOMENT, DOMINGUEZ WAS CONFIDENT THAT SOME ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ALONG THESE LINES, EVEN IF IT IS ONLY TO MAKE NATIONAL-FLAG STATUS OPTIONAL

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ON A COUNTRY BY COUNTRY BASIS.

4. ASKED ABOUT FURTHER DETAILS ON PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT, DOMINGUEZ REFERRED THE INQUIRY TO NAMUCAR'S COSTA RICA OFFICES, STATING THAT NAMUCAR'S POLICY ISSUES ARE DECIDED THERE. HE ADDED THAT IT WOULD BE DANGEROUS FOR HIM TO SPECULATE FURTHER IN SUCH MATTERS.  
VAKY

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## Message Attributes

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